Free treatment for TB patients

1266. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a programme to ensure that poor and needy patients get free medicines and treatment for TB;

(b) whether it is also a fact this policy or programme is implemented only in some States of the country;

(c) if so, the reasons for exclusion of some States from this health policy to combat TB;

(d) the steps proposed to ensure that all such identified poor patients get the required medicines to fight TB; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (e) Under the National TB Control Programme, anti-TB drugs for full course of treatment are provided free of cost to all TB patients irrespective of economic status. The Programme is being implemented in all States of the country except few districts of Bihar which are under advanced stage of preparation for implementation of the programme.

Emergency facility in CGHS

1267. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CGHS beneficiaries can approach any CGHS dispensary in emergency;

(b) when were the instructions issued in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these instructions are not being honoured at present and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to renew these instructions for the benefit of beneficiaries as well as doctors?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) and (b) Normally a CGHS card holder is attached to a CGHS dispensary in his/her locality based on his/her address of residence for availing medical facilities. However as per

instructions issued vide Ministry of Health and Family Welfare O.M. No. S-11011/7/99-CGHS(P) dated 30th September, 1999, CGHS beneficiaries can avail medical services at out station in any dispensary while on tour, leave or in unforeseen emergency.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Labelling of ingredients on packaged food

1268. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has issued any notification relating to labelling requirements for packaged food, manufactured and sold in India and thus aligning with the international standards;

(b) whether the amended Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, ensure that such labels contain full information relating to ingredients, quantity used, nutritional information per 100 grams/ml. expiry date, etc; and

(c) whether the existing staff suffice or additional staff with special orientation will be required to ensure compliance with the amended provision?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) A daft notification has been published in Gazette of India vide G.S.R. 694 (E) dated the 28th November, 2005 for inviting objections/suggestions from the public. As per the draft rules, every package of food shall indicate the full information relating to ingredients, quantity used including percentage of ingredients, which is emphasizecras present through words or pictures or graphics, nutritional information per 10Ogm or per 100 ml alongwith percentage of nutrients, date of expiry, country of origin etc.

Staff as per the sanctioned strength will suffice. The Orientation Training Courses to regulatory staffs are being imparted under the World Bank Assisted Capacity Building Poject on Food and Drugs.